

## Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 PM-04 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 DODE-00 MC-02 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 SP-02

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FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6337

S E C R E T NAIROBI 10198

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: MASS, US, KE

SUBJECT: GOK REQUEST TO SEND MINISTERIAL DELEGATION TO U.S.  
TO DISCUSS ARMS NEEDS

1. I HAVE JUST RECEIVED LETTER FROM FINANCE MINISTER  
KIBAKI WHICH IS QUOTED IN FULL IN PARAS 2 -5 BELOW.

2. BEGIN QUOTE. I WRITE TO CONFIRM OUR DISCUSSIONS IN MY  
OFFICE ON 20TH NOVEMBER, 1975, WHEN I INFORMED YOU OF  
THE WISH OF THE KENYA GOVERNMENT TO SEND A SMALL DELEGATION  
TO THE UNITED STATES TO DISCUSS WITH APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS  
OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT, THE POSSIBILITY OF ASSISTANCE TO  
THE KENYA ARMED FORCES. THE DETAILS OF OUR PROPOSALS  
HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF YOUR EMBASSY  
AND THE GENERAL BACKGROUND IS WELL-KNOWN TO YOUR GOVERNMENT.

3. THE ENTIRE PROGRAMME OF EXPANSION AND MODERNIZATION  
OF THE DEFENCE FORCES WILL REQUIRE RESOURCES BEYOND THE  
CAPACITY OF THIS COUNTRY AND WILL INDEED REQUIRE ASSIST-  
ANCE FROM MORE THAN ONE FRIENDLY COUNTRY. IN THIS  
CONNECTION, YOU ARE AWARE OF THE PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS  
WHICH HAVE BEEN INITIATED WITH THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE  
UNITED KINGDOM AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY.  
THE OFFICIALS OF THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE HAVE UNDERTAKEN  
THOROUGH EXAMINATION OF THEIR EQUIPMENT AND MATERIAL

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REQUIREMENTS AND IT IS CLEAR THAT A SUBSTANTIAL PRO-

PORTION OF THESE WILL HAVE TO COME FROM THE UNITED STATES. WE HOPE TO LET YOU HAVE THE DETAILS OF SUCH REQUIREMENTS IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

4. IN THE MEANTIME, I SHOULD BE GRATEFUL IF YOU WOULD CONVEY TO YOUR GOVERNMENT OUR REQUEST THAT A MISSION CONSISTING OF MYSELF, THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AS WELL AS OTHER OFFICIALS BE RECEIVED BY THE APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES IN THE UNITED STATES. WHILE IT IS OF COURSE A MATTER FOR YOUR GOVERNMENT TO DECIDE AS TO WHO SHOULD RECEIVE THIS DELEGATION, IT IS HOPED THAT DISCUSSIONS CAN BE HELD WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE AS WELL AS THE SECRETARY FOR DEFENCE AND THE SECRETARY TO THE TREASURY.

5. I SHOULD BE GRATEFUL IF YOU WOULD CONVEY THIS REQUEST TO YOUR GOVERNMENT. END QUOTE.

6. THE MEETING REFERRED TO IN KIBAKI'S LETTER TOOK PLACE AT HIS REQUEST AND WAS ALSO ATTENDED BY FINANCE MINISTRY PERMSEC NG'ANG'A, DEFENCE MINISTRY PERMSEC KIEREINI, AND DCM LINDSTROM. KIBAKI STATED HE WAS ACTING UNDER NEW INSTRUCTIONS OF PRESIDENT KENYATTA WHO IS BECOMING INCREASINGLY IMPATIENT OVER SLOW RESPONSE OF U.S. AND OTHER COUNTRIES TO GOK APPROACHES FOR ARMS ASSISTANCE. WHILE WE WILL NOT KNOW PRECISELY HOW MUCH ASSISTANCE IN MILITARY FIELD KENYA WILL EXPECT FROM U.S. UNTIL FOLLOW-UP LETTER LISTING PRECISE EQUIPMENT NEEDS IS RECEIVED, KIBAKI MADE IT CLEAR THAT FMS CREDIT AND MAP FINANCING WE HAVE THUS FAR PROGRAMMED FALLS FAR SHORT OF COVERING ARMS AND EQUIPMENT TO BE REQUESTED.

7. RE TIMING OF VISIT TO U.S. BY THIS DELEGATION, I DISCOURAGED PLANNING VISIT BEFORE END OF YEAR. HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF PRESIDENT KENYATTA'S IMPATIENCE, KIBAKI MADE IT CLEAR THAT VISIT SHOULD TAKE PLACE NO LATER THAN JANUARY OR FEBRUARY AT WHATEVER TIME KEY U.S. OFFICIALS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR APPROPRIATE DISCUSSIONS. HE ALSO EXPRESSED HOPE THAT USG AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE TO SUCH A VISIT COULD BE GRANTED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, PREFERABLY BEFORE GOK FOLLOW-LETTER ON HARDWARE REQUIREMENTS SENT

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TO US IN ABOUT ONE WEEK. I REMINDED KIBAKI THAT USG ALSO PREPARING LIST OF ARMS AND EQUIPMENT TO BE OFFERED TO KENYA WHICH I HOPED WOULD BE READY SOON, BUT THAT GOK LETTER RE REQUIREMENTS NEED NOT AWAIT RECEIPT OF U.S. PROPOSALS.

8. RECOMMENDATION: ALMOST ONE YEAR HAS PASSED SINCE VICE PRESIDENT MOI FIRST FORMALLY REQUESTED U.S. ASSISTANCE

IN MILITARY FIELD AND WE HAVE NOT AS YET AGREED ON ANY  
SPECIFIC ARMS TRANSACTIONS. MOREOVER, IT SHOULD BE  
RECALLED THAT WE DISCOURAGED AN EARLIER GOK PROPOSAL TO  
SEND MINISTERIAL-LEVEL ARMS DELEGATION TO U.S. LAST MAY.  
I THEREFORE STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT WE MAKE AN EARLY  
AND FAVORABLE RESPONSE TO GOK REQUEST TO SEND DELEGATION  
TO U.S. EARLY NEXT YEAR.  
MARSHALL

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** woolflhd  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**To:** STATE  
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